



CUPS Software Administrators Manual

CUPS-SAM-1.1

Easy Software Products
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Preface

This software administrators manual provides printer administration information for the Common UNIX Printing System™ ("CUPS™"), version 1.1.

System Overview

CUPS provides a portable printing layer for UNIX®-based operating systems. It has been developed by [Easy Software Products](#) to promote a standard printing solution for all UNIX vendors and users. CUPS provides the System V and Berkeley command-line interfaces.

CUPS uses the Internet Printing Protocol ("IPP") as the basis for managing print jobs and queues. The Line Printer Daemon ("LPD") Server Message Block ("SMB"), and AppSocket (a.k.a. JetDirect) protocols are also supported with reduced functionality. CUPS adds network printer browsing and PostScript Printer Description ("PPD") based printing options to support real-world printing under UNIX.

CUPS also includes a customized version of GNU Ghostscript (currently based off GNU Ghostscript 5.50) and an image file RIP that are used to support non-PostScript printers. Sample drivers for HP and EPSON printers are included that use these filters.

Document Overview

This software administrators manual is organized into the following sections:

- [1 – Printing System Overview](#)
- [2 – Building and Installing CUPS](#)
- [3 – Getting Started](#)
- [4 – Managing Printers](#)
- [5 – Printer Classes](#)
- [6 – Client Setup](#)
- [7 – Printing with Other Systems](#)
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- [A – Software License Agreement](#)
- [B – Common Network Settings](#)
- [C – Printer Drivers](#)
- [D – Troubleshooting Common Problems](#)

1 – Printing System Overview

This chapter provides an overview of how the Common UNIX Printing System works.

The Printing Problem

For years *the printing problem* has plagued UNIX. Unlike Microsoft® Windows® or Mac OS, UNIX has no standard interface or system in place for supporting printers. Among the solutions currently available, the Berkeley and System V printing systems are the most prevalent.

These printing systems support line printers (text only) or PostScript printers (text and graphics), and with some coaxing they can be made to support a full range of printers and file formats. However, because each variant of the UNIX operating system uses a different printing system than the next developing printer drivers for a wide range of printers and operating systems is extremely difficult. That combined with the limited volume of customers for each UNIX variant has forced most printer vendors to give up supporting UNIX entirely.

CUPS is designed to eliminate *the printing problem*. One common printing system can be used by all UNIX variants to support the printing needs of users. Printer vendors can use its modular filter interface to develop a single driver program that supports a wide range of file formats with little or no effort. Since CUPS provides both the System V and Berkeley printing commands, users (and applications) can reap the benefits of this new technology with no changes.

The Technology

CUPS is based upon an emerging Internet standard called the Internet Printing Protocol. IPP has been embraced by dozens of printer and printer server manufacturers and is supported by Microsoft Windows 2000.

IPP defines a standard protocol for printing as well as managing print jobs and printer options like media size, resolution, and so forth. Like all IP-based protocols, IPP can be used locally or over the Internet to printers hundreds or thousands of miles away. Unlike other protocols, however, IPP also supports access control, authentication, and encryption, making it a much more capable and secure printing solution than older ones.

IPP is layered on top of the Hyper-Text Transport Protocol ("HTTP") which is the basis of web servers on the Internet. This allows users to view documentation, check status information on a printer or server, and manage their printers, classes, and jobs using their web browser.

CUPS provides a complete IPP/1.1 based printing system that provides Basic, Digest, and local certificate authentication and user, domain, or IP-based access control. TLS encryption will be available in future versions of CUPS.

Jobs

Each file or set of files that is submitted for printing is called a *job*. Jobs are identified by a unique number starting at 1 and are assigned to a particular destination, usually a printer. Jobs can also have options associated with them such as media size, number of copies, and priority.

Classes

CUPS supports collections of printers known as *classes*. Jobs sent to a class are forwarded to the first available printer in the class.

Filters

Filters allow a user or application to print many types of files without extra effort. Print jobs sent to a CUPS server are filtered before sending them to a printer. Some filters convert job files to different formats that the printer can understand. Others perform page selection and ordering tasks.

CUPS provides filters for printing many types of image files, HP-GL/2 files, PDF files, and text files. CUPS also supplies PostScript and image file Raster Image Processor ("RIP") filters that convert PostScript or image files into bitmaps that can be sent to a raster printer.

Backends

Backends perform the most important task of all – they send the filtered print data to the printer.

CUPS provides backends for printing over parallel, serial, and USB ports, and over the network via the IPP, JetDirect (AppSocket), and Line Printer Daemon ("LPD") protocols. Additional backends are available in network service packages such as the SMB backend included with the popular SAMBA software.

Backends are also used to determine the available devices. On startup each backend is asked for a list of devices it supports, and any information that is available. This allows the parallel backend to tell CUPS that an EPSON Stylus Color 600 printer is attached to parallel port 1, for example.

Printer Drivers

Printer drivers in CUPS consist of one or more filters specific to a printer. CUPS includes sample printer drivers for Hewlett-Packard LaserJet and DeskJet printers and EPSON 9-pin, 24-pin, Stylus Color, and Stylus Photo printers. While these drivers do not generate optimal output for the different printer models, they do provide basic printing and demonstrate how you can write your own printer drivers and incorporate them into CUPS.

Networking

Printers and classes on the local system are automatically shared with other systems on the network. This allows you to setup one system to print to a printer and use this system as a printer server or spool host for all of the others. Users may then select a local printer by name or a remote printer using "name@server".

CUPS also provides *implicit classes*, which are collections of printers and/or classes with the same name. This allows you to setup multiple servers pointing to the same physical network printer, for example, so that you aren't relying on a single system for printing. Because this also works with printer classes, you can setup multiple servers and printers and never worry about a single point of failure unless all of the printers and servers go down!

2 – Building and Installing CUPS

This chapter shows how to build and install the Common UNIX Printing System. If you are installing a binary distribution from the CUPS web site, proceed to the section titled, [Installing a Binary Distribution](#).

Installing a Source Distribution

This section describes how to compile and install CUPS on your system from the source code.

Requirements

You'll need an ANSI-compliant C compiler to build CUPS on your system. As its name implies, CUPS is designed to run on the UNIX operating system, however the CUPS interface library and most of the filters and backends supplied with CUPS should also compile and run under Microsoft Windows.

For the image file filters and PostScript RIP, you'll need the JPEG, PNG, TIFF, and ZLIB libraries. CUPS will build without these, but with significantly reduced functionality. Easy Software Products maintains a mirror of the current versions of these libraries at:

<ftp://ftp.easysw.com/pub/libraries>

If you make changes to the man pages you'll need GNU groff or another nroff-like package. GNU groff is available from:

<ftp://ftp.gnu.org/pub/groff>

The documentation is formatted using the HTMLDOC software. If you need to make changes you can get the HTMLDOC software from:

<http://www.easysw.com/htmldoc>

Compiling CUPS

CUPS uses GNU autoconf to configure the makefiles and source code for your system. Type the following command to configure CUPS for your system:

```
./configure ENTER
```

The default installation will put the CUPS software in the */etc*, */usr*, and */var* directories on your system, which will overwrite any existing printing commands on your system. Use the `--prefix` option to install the CUPS software in another location:

```
./configure --prefix=/usr/local ENTER
```

If the PNG, JPEG, TIFF, and ZLIB libraries are not installed in a system default location (typically */usr/include* and */usr/lib*) you'll need to set the `CFLAGS` and `LDFLAGS` environment variables prior to running configure:

```
setenv CFLAGS "-I/some/directory"
setenv LDFLAGS "-L/some/directory"
./configure ... ENTER
```

Once you have configured things, just type:

```
make ENTER
```

to build the software.

Installing the Software

Use the "install" target to install the software:

```
make install ENTER
```

WARNING:

Installing CUPS will overwrite your existing printing system. If you experience difficulties with the CUPS software and need to go back to your old printing system, you will need to reinstall the printing system from your operating system CDs.

Running the Software

Once you have installed the software you can start the CUPS daemon by typing:

```
/usr/sbin/cupsd ENTER
```

Installing a Binary Distribution

CUPS comes in a variety of binary distribution formats. Easy Software Products provides binaries in TAR format with installation and removal scripts ("portable" distributions), and in RPM and DPKG formats for Red Hat and Debian-based distributions. Portable distributions are available for all platforms, while the RPM and DPKG distributions are only available for Linux.

WARNING:

Installing CUPS will overwrite your existing printing system. If you experience difficulties with the CUPS software and need to go back to your old printing system, you will need to remove the CUPS software with the provided script and/or reinstall the printing system from your operating system CDs.

Installing a Portable Distribution

To install the CUPS software from a portable distribution you will need to be logged in as root; doing an `su` is good enough. Once you are the root user, run the installation script with:

```
./cups.install ENTER
```

After asking you a few yes/no questions the CUPS software will be installed and the scheduler will be started automatically.

Installing an RPM Distribution

To install the CUPS software from an RPM distribution you will need to be logged in as root; doing an `su` is good enough. Once you are the root user, run RPM with:

```
rpm -e lpr  
rpm -i cups-1.1-linux-M.m.n-intel.rpm ENTER
```

After a short delay the CUPS software will be installed and the scheduler will be started automatically.

Installing an Debian Distribution

To install the CUPS software from a Debian distribution you will need to be logged in as root; doing an `su` is good enough. Once you are the root user, run `dpkg` with:

```
dpkg -i cups-1.1-linux-M.m.n-intel.deb ENTER
```

After a short delay the CUPS software will be installed and the scheduler will be started automatically.

3 – Getting Started

This chapter describes how to add your first printer.

The Interfaces

CUPS provides two methods for adding printers – a command-line program called `lpadmin(1m)` and a Web interface. The `lpadmin` command allows you to perform most printer administration tasks from the command-line and is located in `/usr/sbin`. The Web interface is located at:

<http://localhost:631/admin>

and steps you through printer configuration. If you don't like command-line interfaces, try the [Web interface](#) instead.

The Basics

Each printer queue has a name associated with it; the printer name must start with a letter and can contain up to 127 letters, numbers, and the underscore (`_`). Case is not significant, e.g. "PRINTER", "Printer", and "printer" are considered to be the same name.

Printer queues also have a device associated with them. The device can be a parallel port, a network interface, and so forth. Devices within CUPS use Uniform Resource Identifiers ("URIs") which are a more general form of Uniform Resource Locators ("URLs") that are used in your web browser. For example, the first parallel port in Linux usually uses a device URI of `parallel:/dev/lp1`.

You can see a complete list of supported devices by running the `lpinfo(1m)` command:

```
lpinfo -v ENTER
file file
network socket
network http
network ipp
network lpd
direct parallel:/dev/lp1
serial serial:/dev/ttyS1?baud=115200
serial serial:/dev/ttyS2?baud=115200
direct usb:/dev/usb/usb-lp0
network smb
```

The `-v` option specifies that you want a list of available devices. The first word in each line is the type of device (direct, file, network, or serial) and is followed by the device URI or method name for that device. File devices have device URIs of the form `file:/directory/filename` while network devices use the more familiar `method://server` or `method://server/path` format.

Finally, printer queues usually have a PostScript Printer Description ("PPD") file associated with them. PPD files describe the capabilities of each printer, the page sizes supported, etc., and are used for PostScript and non-PostScript printers. CUPS includes PPD files for HP LaserJet, HP DeskJet, EPSON 9-pin, EPSON 24-pin, and EPSON Stylus printers.

Adding Your First Printer from the Command-Line

Run the `lpadmin` command with the `-p` option to add a printer to CUPS:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p printer -E -v device -m ppd ENTER
```

For an HP DeskJet printer connected to the parallel port this would look like:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p DeskJet -E -v parallel:/dev/lp1 -m deskjet.ppd ENTER
```

Similarly, an HP LaserJet printer using a JetDirect network interface at IP address 11.22.33.44 would be added with the command:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p LaserJet -E -v socket://11.22.33.44 -m laserjet.ppd ENTER
```

As you can see, `deskjet.ppd` and `laserjet.ppd` are the PPD files for the HP DeskJet and HP LaserJet drivers included with CUPS. You'll find a complete list of PPD files and the printers they will work with in [Appendix C, "Printer Drivers"](#).

Adding Your First Printer from the Web

The CUPS web server provides a user-friendly "wizard" interface for adding your printers. Rather than figuring out which device URI and PPD file to use, you can instead click on the appropriate listings and fill in some simple information. Enter the following URL in your web browser to begin:

<http://localhost:631/admin>

Click on the *Add Printer* button to add a printer.

4 – Managing Printers

This chapter discusses how to manage print queues on your system.

Managing Printers from the Command-Line

The `lpadmin` command allows you to perform most printer administration tasks from the command-line. You'll find `lpadmin` in the `/usr/sbin` directory.

Adding and Modifying Printers

Run the `lpadmin` command with the `-p` option to add or modify a printer:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p printer options ENTER
```

The *options* arguments can be any of the following:

`-c class`

Adds the named printer to printer class *class*. If the class does not exist then it is created.

`-i interface`

Copies the named *interface* script to the printer. Interface scripts are used by System V printer drivers. Since all filtering is disabled when using an interface script, scripts generally should not be used unless there is no other driver for a printer.

`-m model`

Specifies a standard printer driver which is usually a PPD file. A list of all available models can be displayed using the `lpinfo` command with the `-m` option. A list of printer drivers

included with CUPS can be found in [Appendix C. "Printer Drivers"](#).

-r class

Removes the named printer from printer class *class*. *If the resulting class becomes empty then it is removed.*

-v device-uri

Sets the device for communicating with the printer. If a job is currently printing on the named printer then the job will be restarted and sent to the new device.

-D info

Provides a textual description of the printer, e.g. "John's Personal Printer".

-E

Enables the printer and accepts job. This option is equivalent to running the `enable(1)` and `accept(1m)` commands on the printer.

-L location

Provides a textual location for the printer, e.g. "Computer Lab 5".

-P ppd-file

Specifies a local PPD file for the printer driver.

Deleting Printers

Run the `lpadmin` command with the `-x` option to delete a printer:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -x printer ENTER
```

Setting the Default Printer

Run the `lpadmin` command with the `-d` option to set a default printer:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -d printer ENTER
```

The default printer can be overridden by the user using the `lpoptions(1)` command.

Starting and Stopping Printers

The `enable` and `disable` commands start and stop printer queues, respectively:

```
/usr/bin/enable printer ENTER
/usr/bin/disable printer ENTER
```

Printers that are disabled may still accept jobs for printing, but won't actually print any files until they are restarted. This is useful if the printer malfunctions and you need time to correct the problem. Any queues jobs are printed after the printer is enabled (started).

Accepting and Rejecting Print Jobs

The `accept` and `reject` commands accept and reject print jobs for the named printer, respectively:

```
/usr/lib/accept printer ENTER
/usr/lib/reject printer ENTER
```

As noted above, a printer can be stopped but accepting new print jobs. A printer can also be rejecting new print jobs while it finishes those that have been queued. This is useful for when you must perform

maintenance on the printer and will not have it available to users for a long period of time.

Managing Printers from the Web

The Web interface is located at:

<http://localhost:631/admin>

From there you can perform all printer management tasks with a few simple mouse clicks.

5 – Printer Classes

This chapter describes what printer classes are and how to manage them.

The Basics

CUPS provides collections of printers called *printer classes*. Jobs sent to a class are forwarded to the first available printer in the class. Classes can themselves be members of other classes, so it is possible for you to define very large, distributed printer classes for high-availability printing.

CUPS also supports *implicit classes*. Implicit classes work just like printer classes, but they are created automatically based upon the available printers and classes on the network. This allows you to setup multiple print servers with identical printer configurations and have the client machines send their print jobs to the first available server. If one or more servers go down, the jobs are automatically redirected to the servers that are running, providing fail-safe printing.

Managing Printer Classes from the Command-Line

Run the `lpadmin` command with the `-p` and `-c` options to add a printer to a class:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p printer -c class ENTER
```

The *class* is created automatically if it doesn't exist. To remove a printer from a class use the `-r` option:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -p printer -r class ENTER
```

To remove the entire class just use the `-x` option:

```
/usr/lib/lpadmin -x class ENTER
```

Managing Printer Classes from the Web Interface

The Web interface is located at:

<http://localhost:631/admin>

The *Add Class* and *Modify Class* interfaces provide a list of available printers; click on the printers of interest to add them to the class.

Implicit Classes

As noted earlier, implicit classes are created automatically from the available network printers and classes. To disable this functionality, set the `ImplicitClasses` directive to `Off` in the `cupsd.conf` file. You will find more information on doing this in [Chapter 7. "Printing System Management"](#).

6 – Client Setup

This chapter discusses several ways to configure CUPS clients for printing.

What is a Client?

A client is any machine that sends print jobs to another machine for final printing. Clients can also be servers if they communicate directly with any printers of their own.

Setup Methods

CUPS supports several methods of configuring client machines:

1. [Manual configuration of print queues.](#)
2. [Specifying a single server for printing.](#)
3. [Automatic configuration of print queues.](#)
4. [Specifying multiple servers for printing.](#)

Manual Configuration of Print Queues

The most tedious method of configuring client machines is to configure each remote queue by hand using the `lpadmin` command:

```
lpadmin -p printer -E -v ipp://server/printers/printer ENTER
```

The *printer* name is the name of the printer on the server machine. The *server* name is the hostname or IP address of the server machine. Repeat the `lpadmin` command for each remote printer you wish to use.

Specifying a Single Server for Printing

CUPS can be configured to run without a local spooler and send all jobs to a single server. However, if that server goes down then all printing will be disabled. Use this configuration only as absolutely needed.

The default server is normally "localhost". To override the default server create a file named `/etc/cups/conf/client.conf` and add a line reading:

```
ServerName server
```

to the file. The *server* name can be the hostname or IP address of the default server.

The default server can also be customized on a per-user basis. To set a user-specific server create a file named `.cupsrc` and add a line reading:

```
ServerName server
```

to the file. As before the *server* name can be the hostname or IP address of the default server.

Automatic Configuration of Print Queues

CUPS supports automatic client configuration of printers on the same subnet. To configure printers on the same subnet, do nothing. Each client should see the available printers within 30 seconds automatically. The printer and class lists are updated automatically as printers and servers are added or removed.

If you want to see printers on other subnets as well you can poll one or more servers on the other subnets as described next.

Specifying Multiple Servers for Printing

If you have CUPS servers on different subnets, then you should configure CUPS to poll those servers. Polling provides the benefits of automatic configuration without significant configuration on the clients, and multiple clients on the same subnet can share the same configuration information.

Polling is enabled by specifying one or more [BrowsePoll](#) directives in the `/etc/cups/cupsd.conf` file. For information on making these changes, see [Chapter 7, "Printing System Management"](#).

7 – Printing with Other Systems

This chapter describes how to print from client systems that use the LPD, Mac OS, or Windows printing protocols.

Printing from LPD Clients

CUPS supports limited functionality for LPD-based clients. With LPD you can print files to specific printers, list the queue status, and so forth. However, the automatic client configuration and printer options are not supported by the LPD protocol, so you must manually configure each client for the printers it needs to access.

The `cups-lpd(1m)` program provides support for LPD clients. To enable LPD support on your server, edit the `/etc/inetd.conf` file and add a line reading:

```
printer stream tcp nowait lp /usr/lib/cups/daemon/cups-lpd cups-lpd
```

The path to the `cups-lpd` may vary depending on your installation.

Once you have added this line, send the `inetd(1m)` process a HUP signal or reboot the system:

```
killall -HUP inetd ENTER [IRIX and some versions of Linux]
kill -HUP pid ENTER
reboot ENTER
```

Printing to LPD Servers

CUPS provides the `lpd` backend for printing to LPD-based servers and printers. To print to a printer on an LPD server use a device URI of `lpd://server/name`, where `server` is the hostname or IP address of the server and `name` is the queue name.

Microsoft Windows NT provides an LPD service under the name "TCP/IP Printing Services". To enable LPD printing on NT, open the "Services" control panel, select the "TCP/IP Printing Services" service, and click on the "Start" button. Any shared printer will then be available via the LPD protocol.

Printing from Mac OS Clients

CUPS does not provide Mac OS support directly. However, there are several free and commercial software packages that do.

Columbia Appletalk Package (CAP)

Because the CAP LaserWriter server (`lwsrv(1m)`) does not support specification of PPD files, we do not recommend that you use CAP with CUPS. However, you can run the `lpsrv` program for limited printing with the command:

```
lwsrv -n "Name" -p printer -a /usr/lib/adicts -f /usr/lib/LW+Fonts
```

XINET KA/Spool

To use your system as a print server for Mac OS clients, configure each printer using a `papserver(1m)` in the `/usr/adm/appletalk/services` file, specifying the corresponding PPD file in the `/etc/cups/ppd` directory for each printer. For a printer named `MyPrinter` the entry would look like:

```
/usr/etc/appletalk/papserver -I -L -P /etc/cups/ppd/MyPrinter.ppd \  
"Printer Description" MyPrinter
```

Note: Enter the text above on a single line without the backslash (`\`) character.

NetATalk

To use your system as a print server for Mac OS clients, configure each printer in the `papd.conf` file, specifying the corresponding PPD file in the `/etc/cups/ppd` directory for each printer. For a printer named `MyPrinter` the entry would look like:

```
Printer Description:MyPrinter@MyServer:\  
:pr=/usr/bin/lp -d MyPrinter:\  
:op=daemon:\  
:pd=/etc/cups/ppd/MyPrinter.ppd
```

Printing to Mac OS Servers

CUPS currently does not provide a backend to communicate with a Mac OS server. However, you should be able to write and install a short shell script in the `/usr/lib/cups/backend` directory that sends a print file using the appropriate command. The following is a short script that will run the `papif` command provided with

CAP:

```

"/usr/lib/cups/backend/cap"

#!/bin/sh
#
# Usage: cap job user title copies options [filename]
#

# No arguments means show available devices...

if test $#argv = 0; then
    echo "network cap \"Unknown\" \"Mac OS Printer via CAP\""
    exit 0
fi

# Collect arguments...

user=$2
copies=$4

if test $#argv = 5; then
    # Get print file from stdin; copies have already been handled...
    file=/var/tmp/$$prn
    copies=1
    cat > $file
else
    # Print file is on command-line...
    file=$6
fi

# Create a dummy cap.printers file for this printer based
# upon a device URI of "cap://server/printer"...

echo $PRINTER/$DEVICE_URI | \
    awk -F/ '{print $1 "=" $5 ":LaserWriter@" $4}' > /var/tmp/$$cap

CAPPRINTERS=/var/tmp/$$cap; export CAPPRINTERS

# Send the file to the printer, once for each copy. This assumes that you
# have properly initialized the cap.printers file...

while [ $copies -gt 0 ]; do
    papif -n $user < $file

    copies=`expr $copies - 1`
done

# Remove any temporary files...
if test $#argv = 5; then
    /bin/rm -f $file
fi

/bin/rm -f /var/tmp/$$cap

exit 0

```

To use this backend with a print queue, specify a device URI of `cap://server/printer`.

Printing from Windows Clients

CUPS does not provide Windows support directly. However, the free SAMBA software package does. SAMBA version 2.0.6 is the first release of SAMBA that supports CUPS. You can download SAMBA from:

<http://www.samba.org>

To configure SAMBA for CUPS, edit the *smb.conf* file and replace the existing printing commands and options with the line:

```
printing = cups
```

That's all there is to it! Remote users will now be able to browse and print to printers on your system.

Printing to Windows Servers

CUPS can print to Windows servers in one of two ways. The first way uses the LPD protocol on the CUPS system and the "TCP/IP Printing Services" on the Windows system. You can find out more about this configuration in the [LPD](#) section earlier in this chapter.

The second way is through the Microsoft Server Message Block ("SMB") protocol. Support for this protocol is provided with the free SAMBA software package. You can download SAMBA from:

<http://www.samba.org>

To configure CUPS for SAMBA, run the following command:

```
ln -s `which smbpool` /usr/lib/cups/backend/smb ENTER
```

The `smbpool(1)` program is provided with SAMBA starting with SAMBA 2.0.6. Once you have made the link you can configure your printers with a device URI of `smb://workgroup/server/sharename` or `smb://server/sharename` if you are in the same workgroup.

When printing to Windows NT servers or to shares with passwords enabled under Windows 95 and 98, you will also need to specify the username and password in the device URI –

```
smb://user:pass@workgroup/server/sharename or
smb://user:pass@server/sharename.
```

8 – Printing System Management

This chapter shows how you can configure the CUPS server.

The Basics

All of the server configuration files are located in the */etc/cups* directory:

classes.conf

This file contains information on each printer class. Normally you manipulate this file using the `lpadmin` command or the Web interface.

client.conf

This file provides the default server name for client machines. See [Chapter 6, "Client Setup" for more information.](#)

cupsd.conf

This file controls how the CUPS server (*/usr/sbin/cupsd*) operates and is normally edited by hand.

mime.convs

This file contains a list of standard file conversion filters and their costs. You normally do not edit this file.

mime.types

This file contains a list of standard file formats and how to recognize them. You normally do not edit this file.

printers.conf

This file contains information on each printer. Normally you manipulate this file using the `lpadmin` command or the Web Interface.

Once you have made a change to a configuration file you need to restart the CUPS server by sending it a HUP signal or using the supplied initialization script. The CUPS distributions install the script in the *init.d* directory with the name *cups*. The location varies based upon the operating system:

```
/etc/rc.d/init.d/cups restart ENTER
/etc/init.d/cups restart ENTER
/sbin/init.d/cups restart ENTER
```

Changing the Server Configuration

The */etc/cups/cupsd.conf* file contains configuration *directives* that control how the server functions. Each directive is listed on a line by itself followed by its value. Comments are introduced using the number sign (" # ") character at the beginning of a line.

Since the server configuration file consists of plain text, you can use your favorite text editor to make changes to it.

Server Directives

The *cupsd.conf* file contains many directives that determine how the server operates:

- [AccessLog](#)
- [Allow](#)
- [AuthClass](#)
- [AuthGroupName](#)
- [AuthType](#)
- [BrowseAddress](#)
- [BrowseAllow](#)
- [BrowseDeny](#)
- [BrowseInterval](#)
- [BrowseOrder](#)
- [BrowsePoll](#)
- [BrowsePort](#)
- [BrowseRelay](#)
- [BrowseTimeout](#)
- [Browsing](#)
- [DefaultCharset](#)
- [DefaultLanguage](#)
- [Deny](#)
- [DocumentRoot](#)
- [ErrorLog](#)
- [Group](#)
- [HostNameLookups](#)
- [ImplicitClasses](#)
- [KeepAliveTimeout](#)
- [KeepAlive](#)
- [Listen](#)
- [Location](#)
- [LogLevel](#)
- [MaxClients](#)
- [MaxLogSize](#)
- [MaxRequestSize](#)
- [Order](#)
- [PageLog](#)
- [Port](#)
- [PreserveJobFiles](#)
- [PreserveJobHistory](#)
- [Printcap](#)
- [RequestRoot](#)
- [RIPCache](#)
- [ServerAdmin](#)
- [ServerBin](#)
- [ServerName](#)
- [ServerRoot](#)
- [SystemGroup](#)
- [TempDir](#)
- [Timeout](#)
- [User](#)

AccessLog

Examples

```
AccessLog /var/log/cups/access_log
AccessLog syslog
```

Description

The `AccessLog` directive sets the name of the access log file. If the filename is not absolute then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The access log file is stored in "common log format" and can be used by any web access reporting tool to generate a report on CUPS server activity.

The special name "syslog" can be used to send the access information to the system log instead of a plain file.

The default access log file is `/var/log/cups/access_log`.

Allow

Examples

```
Allow from All
Allow from None
Allow from *.domain.com
Allow from .domain.com
Allow from host.domain.com
Allow from nnn.*
Allow from nnn.nnn.*
Allow from nnn.nnn.nnn.*
Allow from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn
Allow from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn/mm
Allow from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn/mmm.mmm.mmm.mmm
```

Description

The `Allow` directive specifies a hostname, IP address, or network that is allowed access to the server. `Allow` directives are cumulative, so multiple `Allow` directives can be used to allow access for multiple hosts or networks. The `/mm` notation specifies a CIDR netmask:

mm	netmask	mm	netmask
0	0.0.0.0	8	255.0.0.0
1	128.0.0.0	16	255.255.0.0
2	192.0.0.0	24	255.255.255.0
...	...	32	255.255.255.255

The `Allow` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

AuthClass

Examples

```
AuthClass Anonymous
AuthClass User
AuthClass System
AuthClass Group
```

Description

The `AuthClass` directive defines what level of `Basic` access is required:

- `Anonymous` – No authentication should be performed (default.)
- `User` – A valid username and password is required.
- `System` – A valid username and password is required, and the username must belong to the "sys" group (this can be changed using the `SystemGroup` directive, below.
- `Group` – A valid username and password is required, and the username must belong to the group named by the `AuthGroupName` directive.

The `AuthClass` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

AuthGroupName

Examples

```
AuthGroupName mygroup
```

Description

The `AuthGroupName` directive sets the group to use for `Group` authentication.

The `AuthGroupName` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

AuthType

Examples

```
AuthType None
AuthType Basic
AuthType Digest
```

Description

The `AuthType` directive defines the type of authentication to perform:

- `None` – No authentication should be performed (default.)
- `Basic` – Basic authentication should be performed using the UNIX password and group files.
- `Digest` – Digest authentication should be performed using the `/etc/cups/passwd.md5` file.

When using `Basic` or `Digest` authentication, clients connecting through the `localhost` interface can also authenticate using [certificates](#).

The `AuthType` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

BrowseAddress

Examples

```
BrowseAddress 255.255.255.255:631
BrowseAddress 192.0.2.255:631
```

Description

The `BrowseAddress` directive specifies an address to send browsing information to. Multiple `BrowseAddress` directives can be specified to send browsing information to different networks or systems.

The default address is `255.255.255.255:631` which will broadcast the information to all networks the server is connected to.

NOTE:

If you are using HP-UX 10.20 and a subnet that is not 24, 16, or 8 bits, printer browsing (and in fact all broadcast reception) will not work. This problem appears to be fixed in HP-UX 11.0.

BrowseAllow

Examples

```
BrowseAllow from all
BrowseAllow from none
BrowseAllow from 192.0.2
BrowseAllow from 192.0.2.0/24
BrowseAllow from 192.0.2.0/255.255.255.0
BrowseAllow from *.domain.com
```

Description

The `BrowseAllow` directive specifies a system or network to accept browse packets from. The default is to accept browse packets from all hosts.

Host and domain name matching requires that you enable the [HostNameLookups](#) directive.

IP address matching supports exact matches, partial addresses that match networks using netmasks of 255.0.0.0, 255.255.0.0, and 255.255.255.0, or network addresses using the specified netmask or bit count.

BrowseDeny

Examples

```
BrowseDeny from all
BrowseDeny from none
BrowseDeny from 192.0.2
BrowseDeny from 192.0.2.0/24
BrowseDeny from 192.0.2.0/255.255.255.0
BrowseDeny from *.domain.com
```

Description

The `BrowseDeny` directive specifies a system or network to reject browse packets from. The default is to deny browse packets from no hosts.

Host and domain name matching requires that you enable the [HostNameLookups](#) directive.

IP address matching supports exact matches, partial addresses that match networks using netmasks of 255.0.0.0, 255.255.0.0, and 255.255.255.0, or network addresses using the specified netmask or bit count.

BrowseOrder

Examples

```
BrowseOrder allow,deny  
BrowseOrder deny,allow
```

Description

The `BrowseOrder` directive specifies the order of allow/deny processing. The default order is `deny,allow`:

- `allow,deny` – Browse packets are accepted unless specifically denied.
- `deny,allow` – Browse packets are rejected unless specifically allowed.

BrowseInterval

Examples

```
BrowseInterval 0  
BrowseInterval 30
```

Description

The `BrowseInterval` directive specifies the maximum amount of time between browsing updates. Specifying a value of 0 seconds disables outgoing browse updates but allows a server to receive printer information from other hosts.

The `BrowseInterval` value should always be less than the [BrowseTimeout](#) value. Otherwise printers and classes will disappear from client systems between updates.

BrowsePoll

Examples

```
BrowsePoll 192.0.2.2:631  
BrowsePoll host.domain.com:631
```

Description

The `BrowsePoll` directive polls a server for available printers once every [BrowseInterval](#) seconds. Multiple `BrowsePoll` directives can be specified to poll multiple servers.

If `BrowseInterval` is set to 0 then the server is polled once every 30 seconds.

BrowsePort

Examples

```
BrowsePort 631  
BrowsePort 9999
```

Description

The `BrowsePort` directive specifies the UDP port number used for browse packets. The default port number is 631.

NOTE:

You must set the `BrowsePort` to the same value on all of the systems that you want to see.

BrowseRelay

Examples

```
BrowseRelay 193.0.2.1 192.0.2.255  
BrowseRelay 193.0.2.0/255.255.255.0 192.0.2.255  
BrowseRelay 193.0.2.0/24 192.0.2.255  
BrowseRelay *.domain.com 192.0.2.255  
BrowseRelay host.domain.com 192.0.2.255
```

Description

The `BrowseRelay` directive specifies source and destination addresses for relaying browsing information from one host or network to another. Multiple `BrowseRelay` directives can be specified as needed.

`BrowseRelay` is typically used on systems that bridge multiple subnets using one or more network interfaces. It can also be used to relay printer information from polled servers with the line:

```
BrowseRelay 127.0.0.1 255.255.255.255
```

This effectively provides access to printers on a WAN for all clients on the LAN(s) connected to the server.

BrowseTimeout

Examples

```
BrowseTimeout 300  
BrowseTimeout 60
```

Description

The `BrowseTimeout` directive sets the timeout for printer or class information that is received in browse packets. Once a printer or class times out it is removed from the list of available destinations.

The `BrowseTimeout` value should always be greater than the [BrowseInterval](#) value. Otherwise printers and classes will disappear from client systems between updates.

Browsing

Examples

```
Browsing On  
Browsing Off
```

Description

The `Browsing` directive controls whether or not network printer browsing is enabled. The default setting is `On`.

NOTE:

If you are using HP-UX 10.20 and a subnet that is not 24, 16, or 8 bits, printer browsing (and in fact all broadcast reception) will not work. This problem appears to be fixed in HP-UX 11.0.

DefaultCharset

Examples

```
DefaultCharset utf-8  
DefaultCharset iso-8859-1  
DefaultCharset windows-1251
```

Description

The `DefaultCharset` directive sets the default character set to use for client connections. The default character set is `utf-8` but is overridden by the character set for the language specified by the client or the `DefaultLanguage` directive.

DefaultLanguage

Examples

```
DefaultLanguage de
DefaultLanguage en
DefaultLanguage es
DefaultLanguage fr
DefaultLanguage it
```

Description

The `DefaultLanguage` directive specifies the default language to use for client connections. Setting the default language also sets the default character set if a language localization file exists for it. The default language is "en" for English.

Deny

Examples

```
Deny from All
Deny from None
Deny from *.domain.com
Deny from .domain.com
Deny from host.domain.com
Deny from nnn.*
Deny from nnn.nnn.*
Deny from nnn.nnn.nnn.*
Deny from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn
Deny from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn/mm
Deny from nnn.nnn.nnn.nnn/mmm.mmm.mmm.mmm
```

Description

The `Deny` directive specifies a hostname, IP address, or network that is allowed access to the server. Deny directives are cumulative, so multiple Deny directives can be used to allow access for multiple hosts or networks. The `/mm` notation specifies a CIDR netmask:

mm	netmask	mm	netmask
0	0.0.0.0	8	255.0.0.0
1	128.0.0.0	16	255.255.0.0
2	192.0.0.0	24	255.255.255.0
...	...	32	255.255.255.255

The `Deny` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

DocumentRoot

Examples

```
DocumentRoot /usr/share/doc/cups
DocumentRoot /foo/bar/doc/cups
```

Description

The `DocumentRoot` directive specifies the location of web content for the HTTP server in CUPS. If an absolute path is not specified then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The default directory is `/usr/share/doc/cups`.

Documents are first looked up in a sub-directory for the primary language requested by the client (e.g. `/usr/share/doc/cups/fr/...`) and then directly under the `DocumentRoot` directory (e.g. `/usr/share/doc/cups/...`), so it is possible to localize the web content by providing subdirectories for each language needed.

ErrorLog

Examples

```
ErrorLog /var/log/cups/error_log
ErrorLog syslog
```

Description

The `ErrorLog` directive sets the name of the error log file. If the filename is not absolute then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The default error log file is `/var/log/cups/error_log`.

The special name "syslog" can be used to send the error information to the system log instead of a plain file.

Group

Examples

```
Group sys
Group system
Group root
```

Description

The `Group` directive specifies the UNIX group that filter and CGI programs run as. The default group is `sys`, `system`, or `root` depending on the operating system.

HostNameLookups

Examples

```
HostNameLookups On
HostNameLookups Off
```

Description

The `HostNameLookups` directive controls whether or not CUPS looks up the hostname for connecting clients. The default is `Off` to avoid the potential server performance problems with hostname lookups. Turn this option `On` only if absolutely required.

ImplicitClasses

Examples

```
ImplicitClasses On
ImplicitClasses Off
```

Description

The `ImplicitClasses` directive controls whether implicit classes are created based upon the available network printers and classes. The default setting is `On` but is automatically turned `Off` if [Browsing](#) is turned `Off`.

KeepAlive

Examples

```
KeepAlive On
KeepAlive Off
```

Description

The `KeepAlive` directive controls whether or not to support persistent HTTP connections. The default is `On`.

HTTP/1.1 clients automatically support persistent connections, while HTTP/1.0 clients must specifically request them using the `Keep-Alive` attribute in the `Connection:` field of each request.

KeepAliveTimeout

Examples

```
KeepAliveTimeout 60
KeepAliveTimeout 30
```

Description

The `KeepAliveTimeout` directive controls how long a persistent HTTP connection will remain open after the last request. The default is 60 seconds.

Listen

Examples

```
Listen 127.0.0.1:631
Listen 192.0.2.1:631
```

Description

The `Listen` directive specifies a network address and port to listen for connections. Multiple `Listen` directives can be provided to listen on multiple addresses.

Description

The `Listen` directive is similar to the [Port](#) directive but allows you to restrict access to specific interfaces or networks.

Location

Examples

```
<Location />
...
</Location>

<Location /admin>
...
</Location>

<Location /printers/name>
...
</Location>
```

Description

The `Location` directive specifies access control and authentication options for the specified HTTP resource or path. More information can be found in [Chapter 8. "Printing System Security"](#).

LogLevel

Examples

```
LogLevel debug
LogLevel error
LogLevel info
LogLevel none
LogLevel warn
```

Description

The `LogLevel` directive specifies the level of logging for the `ErrorLog` file. The following values are recognized:

- `debug` – Log everything.
- `info` – Log all requests and state changes.
- `warn` – Log errors and warnings.
- `error` – Log only errors.
- `none` – Log nothing.

The default log level is `info`.

MaxClients

Examples

```
MaxClients 100
MaxClients 1024
```

Description

The `MaxClients` directive controls the maximum number of simultaneous clients that will be allowed by the server. The default is 100 clients.

Note: Since each print job requires a file descriptor for the status pipe, the CUPS server internally limits the `MaxClients` value to 1/3 of the available file descriptors to avoid possible problems when printing large numbers of jobs.

MaxLogSize

Examples

```
MaxLogSize 1048576
MaxLogSize 0
```

Description

The `MaxLogSize` directive controls the maximum size of each log file. Once a log file reaches or exceeds the maximum size it is closed and renamed to *filename.O*. This allows you to rotate the logs automatically. The default size is 1048576 bytes (1MB).

Setting the maximum size to 0 disables log rotation.

MaxRequestSize

Examples

```
MaxRequestSize 0
MaxRequestSize 10485760
```

Description

The `MaxRequestSize` directive controls the maximum size of print files, IPP requests, and HTML form data in HTTP POST requests. The default limit is 0 which disables the limit check.

Order

Examples

```
Order Allow,Deny
Order Deny,Allow
```

Description

The `Order` directive defines the default access control. The following values are supported:

- `Order Allow,Deny` – Allow requests from all systems *except* for those listed in a `Deny` directive.
- `Order Deny,Allow` – Allow requests only from those listed in an `Allow` directive.

The `Order` directive must appear inside a [Location](#) directive.

PageLog

Examples

```
PageLog /var/log/cups/page_log
PageLog syslog
```

Description

The `PageLog` directive sets the name of the page log file. If the filename is not absolute then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The default page log file is `/var/log/cups/page_log`.

The special name "syslog" can be used to send the page information to the system log instead of a plain file.

Port

Examples

```
Port 631
Port 80
```

Description

The `Port` directive specifies a port to listen on. Multiple `Port` lines can be specified to listen on multiple ports. The default port is 631.

Description

The `Port` directive will listen for connections on all network interfaces. To limit connections to a single interface use the [Listen](#) directive with the interface address.

PreserveJobHistory

Examples

```
PreserveJobHistory On
PreserveJobHistory Off
```

Description

The `PreserveJobHistory` directive controls whether the history of completed, cancelled, or aborted print jobs is stored on disk.

A value of `On` (the default) preserves job information until the administrator purges it with the `cancel` command.

A value of `Off` removes the job information as soon as each job is completed, cancelled, or aborted.

PreserveJobFiles

Examples

```
PreserveJobFiles On
PreserveJobFiles Off
```

Description

The `PreserveJobFiles` directive controls whether the document files of completed, cancelled, or aborted print jobs are stored on disk.

A value of `On` preserves job files until the administrator purges them with the `cancel` command. Jobs can be restarted (and reprinted) as desired until they are purged.

A value of `Off` (the default) removes the job files as soon as each job is completed, cancelled, or aborted.

Printcap

Examples

```
Printcap
Printcap /etc/printcap
```

Description

The `Printcap` directive controls whether or not a `printcap` file is automatically generated and updated with a list of available printers. If specified with no value (the default), then no `printcap` file will be generated.

When a filename is specified (e.g. `/etc/printcap`), the `printcap` file is written whenever a printer is added or removed. The `printcap` file can then be used by applications that are hardcoded to look at the `printcap` file for the available printers.

RequestRoot

Examples

```
RequestRoot /var/spool/cups
RequestRoot /foo/bar/spool/cups
```

Description

The `RequestRoot` directive sets the directory for incoming IPP requests and HTML forms. If an absolute path is not provided then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The default request directory is `/var/spool/cups`.

RIPCache

Examples

```
RIPCache 8m
RIPCache 1g
RIPCache 2048k
```

Description

The `RIPCache` directive sets the size of the memory cache used by Raster Image Processor ("RIP") filters such as `imageraster` and `pstoraster`. The size can be suffixed with a "k" for kilobytes, "m" for megabytes, or "g" for gigabytes. The default cache size is "8m", or 8 megabytes.

ServerAdmin

Examples

```
ServerAdmin user@host
ServerAdmin root@foo.bar.com
```

Description

The `ServerAdmin` directive identifies the email address for the administrator on the system. By default the administrator email address is `root@server`, where `server` is the server name.

ServerBin

Examples

```
ServerBin /usr/lib/cups
ServerBin /foo/bar/lib/cups
```

Description

The `ServerBin` directive sets the directory for server-run executables. If an absolute path is not provided then it is assumed to be relative to the [ServerRoot](#) directory. The default executable directory is `/usr/lib/cups` or `/usr/lib32/cups` (IRIX 6.5).

ServerName

Examples

```
ServerName foo.domain.com
ServerName myserver.domain.com
```

Description

The `ServerName` directive specifies the hostname that is reported to clients. By default the server name is the hostname.

ServerRoot

Examples

```
ServerRoot /etc/cups
ServerRoot /foo/bar/cups
```

Description

The `ServerRoot` directive specifies the absolute path to the server configuration and state files. It is also used to resolve relative paths in the *cupsd.conf* file. The default server directory is */etc/cups*.

SystemGroup

Examples

```
SystemGroup sys
SystemGroup system
SystemGroup root
```

Description

The `SystemGroup` directive specifies the system administration group for `System` authentication. More information can be found in [Chapter 8, "Printing System Security"](#).

TempDir

Examples

```
TempDir /var/tmp
TempDir /foo/bar/tmp
```

Description

The `TempDir` directive specifies an absolute path for the directory to use for temporary files. The default directory is `/var/tmp`.

Temporary directories must be world-writable and should have the "sticky" permission bit enabled so that other users cannot delete filter temporary files. The following commands will create an appropriate temporary directory called `/foo/bar/tmp`:

```
mkdir /foo/bar/tmp ENTER
chmod a+rwxt /foo/bar/tmp ENTER
```

Timeout

Examples

```
Timeout 300
Timeout 90
```

Description

The `Timeout` directive controls the amount of time to wait before an active HTTP or IPP request times out. The default timeout is 300 seconds.

User

Examples

```
User lp
User guest
```

Description

The `User` directive specifies the UNIX user that filter and CGI programs run as. The default user is `lp`.

9 – Printing System Security

This chapter shows the different type of access control and authentication that are available in CUPS.

The Basics

CUPS provides support for address, certificate, and password (Basic and Digest) based authentication and access control.

Certificate and password authentication provide ways to limit access to individual people or groups.

Address based access control allows you to limit access to specific systems, networks, or domains. While this does not provide authentication, it does allow you to limit the potential users of your system efficiently.

CUPS maintains a list of locations that have access control and/or authentication enabled. Locations are specified using the [Location](#) directive:

```
<Location /resource>
  AuthClass ...
  AuthGroupName ...
  AuthType ...

  Order ...
  Allow from ...
  Deny from ...
</Location>
```

Locations generally follow the directory structure of the [DocumentRoot](#) directory, however CUPS does have several virtual locations for administration, classes, jobs, and printers:

Location	Description
/admin	The path for all administration operations.
/classes	The path for all classes.
/classes/name	The resource for class name.
/jobs	The path for all jobs.
/jobs/id	The resource for job id.
/printers	The path for all printers.
/printers/name	The path for printer name.
/printers/name.ppd	The PPD file path for printer name.

Authentication Using Certificates

CUPS supports a local certificate-based authentication scheme that can be used in place of `Basic` or `Digest` authentication by clients connecting through the `localhost` interface. Certificate authentication is not supported or allowed from clients on any other interface.

Certificates are 128-bit random numbers that refer to an internal authentication record in the server. A client connecting via the `localhost` interface sends a request with an authorization header of:

```
Authorization: Local 0123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF
```

The server then looks up the local certificate and authenticates using the username associated with it.

Certificates are generated by the server automatically and stored in the `/etc/cups/certs` directory using the process ID of the CGI program started by the server. Certificate files are only readable by the [User](#) and [Group](#) defined in the `cupsd.conf` file. When the CGI program ends the certificate is removed and invalidated automatically.

The special file `/etc/cups/certs/0` defines the *root certificate* which can be used by any client running as the super-user or another user that is part of the group defined by the [SystemGroup](#) directive. The root certificate is automatically regenerated every 5 minutes.

Using Basic Authentication

Basic authentication uses UNIX users and passwords to authenticate access to resources such as printers and classes, and to limit access to administrative functions.

Note:

Basic authentication sends the username and password Base64 encoded from the client to the server, so it offers no protection against eavesdropping. This means that a malicious user can monitor network packets and discover valid users and passwords that could result in a serious compromise in network security. Use Basic authentication with extreme care.

The CUPS implementation of Basic authentication does not allow access through user accounts without a password. If you try to authenticate using an account without a password, your access will be immediately blocked.

Once a valid username and password is authenticated by CUPS, any additional group membership requirements are checked.

Note:

The root user is considered by CUPS to be a member of every group.

Use the `AuthType` directive to enable Basic authentication:

```
AuthType Basic
```

Using Digest Authentication

Digest authentication uses users and passwords defined in the `/etc/cups/passwd.md5` file to authenticate access to resources such as printers and classes, and to limit access to administrative functions.

Note:

Unlike Basic authentication, Digest passes the MD5 sum (basically a complicated checksum) of the username and password instead of the strings themselves. Also, Digest authentication does not use the UNIX password file, so if an attacker does discover the original password it is less likely to result in a serious security problem so long as you use a different UNIX password than the corresponding Digest password.

The current CUPS implementation of Digest authentication uses the client's hostname or IP address for the "nonce" value. The nonce value is an additional string added to the username and password to make guessing the password more difficult. The server checks that the nonce value matches the client's hostname or address and rejects the MD5 sum if it doesn't. Future versions of CUPS will support Digest "session" authentication which adds the request data to the MD5 sum, providing even better authentication and security.

Digest authentication does not guarantee that an attacker cannot gain unauthorized access, but it is safer than Basic authentication and should be used in place of Basic authentication whenever possible. **Support for Digest authentication in web browsers is not yet universally available.**

The `lppasswd(1)` command is used to add, change, or remove accounts from the `passwd.md5` file. To add a user to the default system group, type:

```
lppasswd -a user ENTER
Password: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
Password again: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
```

Once added, a user can change his/her password by typing:

```
lppasswd ENTER
Old password: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
Password: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
Password again: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
```

To remove a user from the password file, type:

```
lppasswd -x user ENTER
```

Once a valid username and password is authenticated by CUPS, any additional group membership requirements are checked.

Note:

The root user is considered by CUPS to be a member of every group.

Use the `AuthType` directive to enable Digest authentication:

```
AuthType Digest
```

System and Group Authentication

The [AuthClass](#) directive controls the level of authentication to perform. `System` and `Group` authentication extend the normal user-based authentication to require membership in a UNIX group. For `System` authentication each user must belong to the `sys`, `system`, or `root` group; the actual group depends on the operating system.

For `Group` authentication each user must belong to the group named by the [AuthGroupName](#) directive:

```
<Location /path>
AuthType Digest
AuthClass Group
AuthGroupName mygroup
</Location>
```

The named group must be a valid UNIX user group, usually defined in the `/etc/group` or `/etc/netgroup` files. Additionally, when using Digest authentication you need to create user accounts with the named group:

```
lppasswd -g mygroup -a user ENTER
Password: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
Password again: (password) ENTER [password is not echoed]
```

10 – Printer Accounting

This chapter describes the CUPS log files.

Where to Find the Log Files

The log files are normally stored in the */var/log/cups* directory. You can change this by editing the */etc/cups/cupsd.conf* configuration file.

The access_log File

The *access_log* file lists each HTTP resource that is accessed by a web browser or CUPS/IPP client. Each line is in the so-called "Common Log Format" used by many web servers and web reporting tools:

```
host group user date-time \"method resource version\" status bytes
127.0.0.1 - - [20/May/1999:19:20:29 +0000] \"POST /admin/ HTTP/1.1\" 401 0
127.0.0.1 - mike [20/May/1999:19:20:31 +0000] \"POST /admin/ HTTP/1.1\" 200 0
```

The *host* field will normally only be an IP address unless you have enabled the [HostNameLookups](#) directive in the *cupsd.conf* file.

The *group* field always contains "-" in CUPS.

The *user* field is the authenticated username of the requesting user. If no username and password is supplied for the request then this field contains "-".

The *date-time* field is the date and time of the request in Greenwich Mean Time (a.k.a. ZULU) and is in the format:

```
[DD/MON/YYYY:HH:MM:SS +0000]
```

The *method* field is the HTTP method used ("GET", "PUT", "POST", etc.)

The *resource* field is the filename of the requested resource.

The *version* field is the HTTP specification version used by the client. For CUPS clients this will always be "HTTP/1.1".

The *status* field contains the HTTP result status of the request. Usually it is "200", but other HTTP status codes are possible. For example, 401 is the "unauthorized access" status in the example above.

The *bytes* field contains the number of bytes in the request. For POST requests the *bytes* field contains the number of bytes of non-IPP data that is received from the client.

The error_log File

The *error_log* file lists messages from the scheduler (errors, warnings, etc.):

```
level date-time message

I [20/May/1999:19:18:28 +0000] Job 1 queued on 'DeskJet' by 'mike'.
I [20/May/1999:19:21:02 +0000] Job 2 queued on 'DeskJet' by 'mike'.
I [20/May/1999:19:22:24 +0000] Job 2 was cancelled by 'mike'.
```

The *level* field contains the type of message:

- E – An error occurred.
- W – The server was unable to perform some action.
- I – Informational message.
- D – Debugging message.

The *date-time* field contains the date and time of when the page started printing. The format of this field is identical to the *date-time* field in the *access_log* file.

The *message* field contains a free-form textual message.

The page_log File

The *page_log* file lists each page that is sent to a printer. Each line contains the following information:

```
printer user job-id date-time page-number num-copies job-billing

DeskJet root 2 [20/May/1999:19:21:05 +0000] 1 0 acme-123
```

The *printer* field contains the name of the printer that printed the page. If you send a job to a printer class, this field will contain the name of the printer that was assigned the job.

The *user* field contains the name of the user (the IPP `requesting-user-name` attribute) that submitted this file for printing.

The *job-id* field contains the job number of the page being printed. Job numbers are reset to 1 whenever the CUPS server is started, so don't depend on this number being unique!

The *date-time* field contains the date and time of when the page started printing. The format of this field is identical to the *data-time* field in the *access_log* file.

The *page-number* and *num-pages* fields contain the page number and number of copies being printed of that page. For printer that can not produce copies on their own, the *num-pages* field will always be 1.

The *job-billing* field contains a copy of the `job-billing` attribute provided with the IPP `create-job` or `print-job` requests.

11 – File Typing and Filtering

This chapter shows how print files are filtered and how to add support for your own file formats and filters.

The Basics

CUPS provides a MIME-based file typing and filtering mechanism to convert files to a printable format for each printer. On startup the CUPS server reads MIME database files from the `/etc/cups` directory (or a directory specified by the [ServerRoot](#) directive) to build a file type and conversion database in memory. These database files are plain ASCII text and can be edited with your favorite text editor.

The *mime.types* and *mime.convs* files define the standard file types and filters that are available on the system.

mime.types

The *mime.types* file defines the known file types. Each line of the file starts with the MIME type and may be followed by one or more file type recognition rules. For example, the `text/html` file type is defined as:

```
text/html      html htm \
                printable(0,1024) + \
                (string(0,"<HTML>") string(0,"<!DOCTYPE"))
```

The first two rules say that any file with an extension of *.html* or *.htm* is a HTML file. The third rule says that any file whose first 1024 characters are printable text and starts with the strings `<HTML>` or `<!DOCTYPE` is a HTML file as well.

The first two rules deal solely with the name of the file being typed. This is useful when the original filename is known, however for print files the server doesn't have a filename to work with. The third rule takes care of this possibility and automatically figures out the file type based upon the contents of the file instead.

The available tests are:

- (*expr*) – Parenthesis for expression grouping
- + – Logical AND
- , or whitespace – Logical OR
- ! – Logical NOT
- match("pattern") – Pattern match on filename
- extension – Pattern match on "*.extension"
- ascii(offset, length) – True if bytes are valid printable ASCII (CR, NL, TAB, BS, 32–126)
- printable(offset, length) – True if bytes are printable 8-bit chars (CR, NL, TAB, BS, 32–126, 160–254)
- string(offset, "string") – True if bytes are identical to string
- contains(offset, range, "string") – True if the range of bytes contains the string
- char(offset, value) – True if byte is identical
- short(offset, value) – True if 16-bit integer is identical (network or "big-endian" byte order)
- int(offset, value) – True if 32-bit integer is identical (network or "big-endian" byte order)
- locale("string") – True if current locale matches string

All numeric values can be in decimal (123), octal (0123), or hexadecimal (0x123) as desired. Strings can be in quotes, all by themselves, as a string of hexadecimal values, or some combination:

```
"string"
'string'
string
<737472696e67>
<7374>ring
```

As shown in the text/html example, rules can continue on multiple lines using the backslash (\) character. A more complex example is the image/jpeg rules:

```
image/jpeg      jpeg jpg jpe string(0,<FFD8FF>) &&\
(char(3,0xe0) char(3,0xe1) char(3,0xe2) char(3,0xe3)\
(char(3,0xe4) char(3,0xe5) char(3,0xe6) char(3,0xe7)\
(char(3,0xe8) char(3,0xe9) char(3,0xea) char(3,0xeb)\
(char(3,0xec) char(3,0xed) char(3,0xee) char(3,0xef))
```

This rule states that any file with an extension of *.jpeg*, *.jpg*, or *.jpe* is a JPEG file. In addition, any file starting with the hexadecimal string <FFD8FF> (JPEG Start-Of-Image) followed by a character between and including 0xe0 and 0xef (JPEG APPn markers) is also a JPEG file.

mime.convs

The *mime.convs* file defines all of the filter programs that are known to the system. Each line consists of:

```
source destination cost program

text/plain application/postscript 50 texttops
application/vnd.cups-postscript application/vnd.cups-raster 50 pstoraster
```

```
image/* application/vnd.cups-postscript 50 imagetops
image/* application/vnd.cups-raster 50 imageraster
```

The *source* field is a MIME type, optionally using a wildcard for the super-type or sub-type (e.g. "text/plain", "image/*", "*/postscript").

The *destination* field is a MIME type defined in the *mime.types* file.

The *cost* field defines a relative cost for the filtering operation from 1 to 100. The cost is used to choose between two different sets of filters when converting a file. For example, to convert from *image/jpeg* to *application/vnd.cups-raster*, you could use the *imagetops* and *pstoraster* filters for a total cost of 100, or the *imageraster* filter for a total cost of 50.

The *program* field defines the filter program to run; the special program "-" can be used to make two file types equivalent. The program must accept the standard filter arguments and environment variables described in the CUPS Interface Design Description and CUPS Software Programmers Manual:

```
program job user title options [filename]
```

If specified, the *filename* argument defines a file to read when filtering, otherwise the filter must read from the standard input. All filtered output must go to the standard output.

Adding Filetypes and Filters

Adding a new file type or filter is fairly straight-forward. Rather than adding the new type and filter to the *mime.types* and *mime.convs* files which are overwritten when you upgrade to a new version of CUPS, you simply need to create new files with *.types* and *.convs* extensions in the */etc/cups* directory. We recommend that you use the product or format name, e.g.:

```
myproduct.types
myproduct.convs
```

If you are providing a filter for a common file format or printer, add the company or author name:

```
acme-msword.types
acme.msword.convs
```

This will help to prevent name collisions if you install many different file types and filters.

Once you choose the names for these files, create them using your favorite text editor as described earlier in this chapter. Once you have created the files, restart the *cupsd* process as described in [Chapter N, "Printing System Configuration"](#).

Printer Drivers and PPD Files

Most CUPS printer drivers utilize one or more printer-specific filters and a PPD file for each printer model. Printer driver filters are registered via the PPD file using *cupsFilter* attributes:

```
*cupsFilter: "application/vnd.cups-raster 0 rastertohp"
```

The filter is specified using the source file type only; the destination file type is assumed to be

`printer/name` – suitable for sending to the printer.

Writing Your Own Filter or Printer Driver

CUPS supports an unlimited number of file formats and filters, and can handle any printer. If you'd like to write a filter or printer driver for your favorite file format or printer, consult the CUPS Software Programmers Manual for step-by-step instructions.

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END OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

B – Common Network Settings

This appendix covers many of the popular TCP/IP network interfaces and printer servers available on the market today.

Configuring a Network Interface

When you first install a network printer or print server on your LAN, you need to set the Internet Protocol ("IP") address. On most higher-end "workgroup" printers, you can set the address through the printer control panel. However, in most cases you will want to assign the addresses remotely from your workstation. This makes administration a bit easier and avoids assigning duplicate addresses accidentally.

To setup your printer or print server for remote address assignment, you'll need the Ethernet Media Access Control ("MAC") address, also sometimes called a node address, and the IP address you want to use for the device. The Ethernet MAC address can often be found on the printer test page or bottom of the print server.

Configuring the IP Address Using ARP

The easiest way to set the IP address of a network device is to use the `arp(1m)` command. The `arp` sends an Address Resolution Protocol ("ARP") packet to the specified Ethernet MAC address, setting the network device's IP address:

```
arp -s ip-address ethernet-address ENTER
arp -s host.domain.com 08:00:69:00:12:34 ENTER
arp -s 192.0.2.2 08:00:69:00:12:34 ENTER
```

Configuring the IP Address Using RARP

The most flexible way to remotely assign IP addresses under UNIX is through the Reverse Address Resolution Protocol ("RARP"). RARP allows a network device to request an IP address using its Ethernet MAC address, and one or more RARP servers on the network will respond with an ARP packet with the IP address the device can use.

RARP should be used when you have to manage many printers or print servers, or when you have a network device that does not remember its IP address after a power cycle. If you just have a single printer or print server, the `arp` command is the way to go.

Some UNIX operating systems use a program called `rarpd(1m)` to manage RARP. Others, like Linux, support this protocol in the kernel. For systems that provide the `rarpd` program you will need to start it before RARP lookups will work:

```
rarpd ENTER
```

Under IRIX you can enable this functionality by default using:

```
chkconfig rarpd on ENTER
```

Both the `rarpd` program and kernel RARP support read a list of Ethernet and IP addresses from the file `/etc/ethers`. Each line contains the Ethernet address (colon delimited) followed by an IP address or hostname like:

```
08:00:69:00:12:34 myprinter.mydomain.com
08:00:69:00:12:34 192.0.2.2
```

Add a line to this file and cycle the power on the printer or print server to set its address.

Configuring the IP Address Using BOOTP

The BOOTP protocol is used when you need to provide additional information such as the location of a configuration file to the network interface. Using the standard `bootpd(1m)` program supplied with UNIX you simply need to add a line to the `/etc/bootptab` file; for IRIX:

```
myprinter 08:00:69:00:12:34 192.0.2.2 myprinter.boot
```

Newer versions of `bootpd` use a different format:

```
myprinter:ha=080069001234:ip=192.0.2.2:t144=myprinter.boot
```

The `myprinter.boot` file resides in the `/usr/local/boot` directory by default. If you do not need to provide a boot file you may leave the last part of the line blank.

Note:

Some versions of UNIX do not enable the BOOTP service by default. The `/etc/inetd.conf` usually contains a line for the BOOTP service that can be uncommented if needed.

Verifying the Printer Connection

To test that the IP address has been successfully assigned and that the printer is properly connected to your LAN, type:

```
ping ip-address ENTER
```

If the connection is working properly you will see something like:

```
ping myprinter ENTER
PING myprinter (192.0.2.2): 56 data bytes
64 bytes from 192.0.2.2: icmp_seq=0 ttl=15 time=5 ms
64 bytes from 192.0.2.2: icmp_seq=1 ttl=15 time=3 ms
64 bytes from 192.0.2.2: icmp_seq=2 ttl=15 time=3 ms
64 bytes from 192.0.2.2: icmp_seq=3 ttl=15 time=3 ms
```

If not, verify that the printer or print server is connected to the LAN, it is powered on, the LAN cabling is good, and the IP address is set correctly. You can usually see the current IP address and network status by printing a configuration or test page on the device.

Common Network Interface Settings

Once you have set the IP address you can access the printer or print server using the `ipp`, `lpd`, or `socket` backends. The following is a list of common network interfaces and printer servers and the settings you should use with CUPS:

Model/Manufacturer	Device URI(s)
Apple LaserWriter	lpd://address/PASSTHRU
Axis w/o IPP (see directions)	socket://address:9100 socket://address:9101 socket://address:9102
Axis w/IPP	ipp://address/LPT1 ipp://address/LPT2 ipp://address/COM1
Castelle LANpress™	lpd://address/pr1 lpd://address/pr2 lpd://address/pr3
DPI NETPrint	lpd://address/pr1 lpd://address/pr2 lpd://address/pr3
EFI® Fiery RIP	lpd://address/print
EPSON® Multiprotocol Ethernet Interface Board	socket://address
Extended System ExtendNET	lpd://address/pr1 lpd://address/pr2 lpd://address/pr3
Hewlett Packard JetDirect w/o IPP	socket://address:9100 socket://address:9101

	socket://address:9102
Hewlett Packard JetDirect w/IPP	ipp://address/ipp ipp://address/ipp/port1 ipp://address/ipp/port2 ipp://address/ipp/port3
Intel® NetportExpress XL, PRO/100	lpd://address/LPT1_PASSTHRU lpd://address/LPT2_PASSTHRU lpd://address/COM1_PASSTHRU
Lexmark™ MarkNet	lpd://address/ps
Linksys EtherFast®	socket://address:4010 socket://address:4020 socket://address:4030
Kodak®	lpd://address/ps
QMS® CrownNet™	lpd://address/ps
Tektronix® PhaserShare™	socket://address:9100
XEROX®	socket://address:5503

Configuring Axis Print Servers

The Axis print servers can be configured using ARP, RARP, or BOOTP. However, on models that do not provide IPP support an additional step must be performed to configure the TCP/IP portion of the print server for use with CUPS.

Each print server contains a configuration file named *config* that contains a list of network parameters used by the server. To modify this file you must first download it from the print server using the `ftp(1)` program:

```
ftp ip-address ENTER
Connected to ip-address.
220 Axis NPS ### FTP Printer Server V### MON DD YEAR ready.
ftp> user root ENTER
331 User name ok, need password
Password: pass ENTER (this is not echoed)
230 User logged in
ftp> get config ENTER
local: config remote: config
200 PORT command successful.
150 Opening data connection for config (192,0,2,2),
(mode ascii).
226 Transfer complete.
##### bytes received in ### seconds (##### Kbytes/s)
ftp> quit ENTER
221 Goodbye.
```

Next, edit the file with your favorite text editor and locate the lines beginning with:

```
RTN_OPT.      : YES
RTEL_PR1.     : 0
RTEL_PR2.     : 0
RTEL_PR3.     : 0
```

```

RTEL_PR4.      : 0
RTEL_PR5.      : 0
RTEL_PR6.      : 0
RTEL_PR7.      : 0
RTEL_PR8.      : 0

```

Change the RTN_OPT line to read:

```

RTN_OPT.       : NO

```

This disables the Reverse TELNET protocol and enables the standard TELNET protocol on the print server. Next, assign a port number for each parallel and serial port on the server as follows:

```

RTEL_PR1.      : 9100
RTEL_PR2.      : 9101
RTEL_PR3.      : 9102
RTEL_PR4.      : 9103
RTEL_PR5.      : 9104
RTEL_PR6.      : 9105
RTEL_PR7.      : 9106
RTEL_PR8.      : 9107

```

This essentially makes the Axis print server look like a Hewlett Packard JetDirect EX print server. Save the file and then upload the new config using the `ftp` command:

```

ftp ip-address ENTER
Connected to ip-address.
220 Axis NPS ### FTP Printer Server V### MON DD YEAR ready.
ftp> user root ENTER
331 User name ok, need password
Password: pass ENTER (this is not echoed)
230 User logged in
ftp> put config CONFIG ENTER
local: config remote: CONFIG
200 PORT command successful.
150 Opening data connection for config (192,0,2,2), (mode ascii).
226 Transfer complete.
##### bytes received in #.## seconds (##### Kbytes/s)
ftp> get hardreset ENTER
local: hardreset remote: hardreset
200 PORT command successful.
421 Axis NPS ### hard reset, closing connection.
ftp> quit ENTER
221 Goodbye.

```

Your Axis print server is now ready for use!

C – Printer Drivers

This appendix lists the printer drivers that are provided with CUPS.

Printer Drivers

CUPS includes the following printer drivers:

- [EPSON 9–pin Dot Matrix](#), *epson9.ppd*
- [EPSON 24–pin Dot Matrix](#), *epson24.ppd*
- [EPSON Stylus Color](#), *stcolor.ppd*
- [EPSON Stylus Photo](#), *stphoto.ppd*
- [HP DeskJet](#), *deskjet.ppd*
- [HP LaserJet](#), *laserjet.ppd*

EPSON 9–pin Dot Matrix

The EPSON 9–pin Dot Matrix driver (*epson9.ppd*) supports 9–pin dot matrix printers that implement the ESC/P command set. It provides 60x72, 120x72, and 240x72 DPI output in black only.

EPSON 24–pin Dot Matrix

The EPSON 24–pin Dot Matrix driver (*epson9.ppd*) supports 24–pin dot matrix printers that implement the ESC/P command set. It provides 120x180, 180x180, 360x180, and 360x360 DPI output in black only.

EPSON Stylus Color

The EPSON Stylus Color driver (*stcolor.ppd*) supports EPSON Stylus Color printers that implement the ESC/P2 command set. It provides 180, 360, and 720 DPI output in black and color (CMYK).

EPSON Stylus Photo

The EPSON Stylus Photo driver (*stphoto.ppd*) supports EPSON Stylus Photo printers that implement the ESC/P2 command set. It provides 180, 360, and 720 DPI output in black and color (CMYKcm).

HP DeskJet

The HP DeskJet driver (*deskjet.ppd*) supports HP DeskJet printers that implement the PCL command set. It provides 150, 300, and 600 DPI output in black and color (CMYK).

The DeskJet printers that implement the HP-PPA command set (720C, 722C, 820C, and 1100C) are **not** supported due to a complete lack of documentation and support from Hewlett Packard.

The duplexer provided with the HP DeskJet 900 series printers is also not supported for similar reasons.

HP LaserJet

The HP LaserJet driver (*laserjet.ppd*) supports HP LaserJet printers that implement the PCL command set. It provides 150, 300, and 600 DPI output in black only and supports the duplexer if installed.

LaserJet printers that do not implement PCL (3100, 3150) are not supported due to a complete lack of documentation and support from Hewlett Packard.

D – List of Files

This appendix lists the files and directories that are installed for the Common UNIX Printing System.

Pathname	Description
/etc/cups/classes.conf	The printer classes configuration file for the scheduler.
/etc/cups/cupsd.conf	The scheduler configuration file.
/etc/cups/mime.convs	The list of standard file filters included with ESP Print Pro.
/etc/cups/mime.types	The list of recognized file types for ESP Print Pro.
/etc/cups/printers.conf	The printer configuration file for the scheduler.
/etc/cups/interfaces/	The location of System V interface scripts for printers.
/etc/cups/ppd/	The location of PostScript Printer Description ("PPD") files for printers.
/usr/bin/cancel	The System V cancel job(s) command.
/usr/bin/disable	The System V disable printer command.
/usr/bin/enable	The System V enable printer command.

/usr/bin/lp	The System V print command.
/usr/bin/lpoptions	Sets user-defined printing options and defaults.
/usr/bin/lppasswd	Adds, changes, or removes Digest password accounts.
/usr/bin/lpq	The Berkeley status command.
/usr/bin/lpr	The Berkeley print command.
/usr/bin/lprm	The Berkeley cancel job(s) command.
/usr/bin/lpstat	The System V status command.
/usr/include/cups/	CUPS API header files.
/usr/lib32/libcups.a /usr/lib32/libcupsimage.a	Static libraries (IRIX 6.5)
/usr/lib/libcups.a /usr/lib/libcupsimage.a	Static libraries (all others)
/usr/lib/libcups.sl.2 /usr/lib/libcupsimage.sl.2	Shared libraries (HP-UX)
/usr/lib32/libcups.so.2 /usr/lib32/libcupsimage.so.2	Shared libraries (IRIX 6.5)
/usr/lib/libcups.so.2 /usr/lib/libcupsimage.so.2	Shared libraries (all others)
/usr/lib/cups/backend/	Backends for various types of printer connections.
/usr/lib/cups/cgi-bin/	CGI programs for the scheduler.
/usr/lib/cups/daemon/	Daemons for polling and LPD support.
/usr/lib/cups/filter/	Filters for various types of files.
/usr/lib/locale/	The location of language-specific message files. (System V)
/usr/lib/nls/msg/	The location of language-specific message files. (Compaq Tru64 UNIX)
/usr/share/locale/	The location of language-specific message files. (Linux, *BSD)
/usr/sbin/accept	The accept-jobs command.
/usr/sbin/cupsd	The CUPS print scheduler.
/usr/sbin/lpadmin	The System V printer administration tool.
/usr/sbin/lpc	The Berkeley printer administration tool.
/usr/sbin/lpinfo	The get-devices and get-ppds command.
/usr/sbin/lpmove	The move-jobs command.
/usr/sbin/reject	The reject-jobs command.

/usr/share/catman/a_man/ /usr/share/catman/u_man/	Man pages (IRIX)
/usr/man/	Man pages (all others)
/usr/share/cups/data/	The location of filter data files.
/usr/share/cups/data/testprint.ps	The PostScript test page file.
/usr/share/cups/fonts/	The location of PostScript fonts for the PostScript RIP.
/usr/share/cups/model/	The location of PostScript Printer Description ("PPD") files and interface scripts that may be used to setup a printer queue.
/usr/share/cups/pstoraster/	Other PostScript RIP initialization files.
/usr/share/cups/pstoraster/Fontmap	The font mapping file (converts filenames to fontnames)
/usr/share/cups/templates/	The location of HTML template files for the web interfaces.
/usr/share/doc/cups/	Documentation and web page data for the scheduler.
/var/log/cups/	The location of scheduler log files.
/var/spool/cups/	The location of print files waiting to be printed.

E – Troubleshooting Common Problems

This appendix covers some of the common problems first-time users encounter when installing and configuring CUPS.

Commercial support for CUPS is available from Easy Software Products. For more information please contact us at:

- WWW: <http://www.easysw.com>
- EMail: support@easysw.com
- Telephone (M–F, 9–5 EST): +1.301.373.9603

The Printing Tools Don't Recognize My Username or Password!

CUPS will ask you for a UNIX username and password when you perform printer administration tasks remotely or via a web browser. The default configuration requires that you use the `root` username and the corresponding password to authenticate the request.

CUPS does not allow you to authenticate an administration request with an account that has no password for security reasons. If you do not have a password on your `root` account then you won't be able to add printers remotely or via the web interface!

To disable password authentication you need to edit the `/etc/cups/cupsd.conf` file and comment out the lines reading:

```
AuthType Basic
AuthClass System
```

for the `/admin` location. Then restart the CUPS server as described in [Chapter 8. "Printing System Management"](#).

Note: Disabling password checks will allow any local user to change your printer and class configuration, but remote administration from another machine will still not be allowed.

I Can't Do Administration Tasks from Another Machine!

The default CUPS configuration limits administration to the local machine. To open up access, edit the `/etc/cups/cupsd.conf` and comment out the lines reading:

```
Order deny,allow
Deny from all
Allow from 127.0.0.1
```

for the `/admin` location. Then restart the CUPS server as described in [Chapter 8. "Printing System Management"](#).

Note: Allowing administration access from all hosts is a potential security risk. Please read [Chapter 9. "Printing System Security"](#) for a description of these risks and ways to minimize them.

I Can't Do Administration Tasks from My Web Browser!

This problem is usually caused by:

1. not specifying the correct password for the root account.
2. accessing the CUPS server using the hostname or IP address of the server but haven't enabled remote access for administration functions. This can be corrected by following the instructions in the ["I Can't Do Administration Tasks from Another Machine!"](#) section earlier in this appendix.
3. not setting a password on the root account. CUPS will not authenticate a user account that does not have a password for security reasons.
4. authenticating using an account other than root, but the account you are using is not a member of the system group.
5. configuring CUPS to use Digest authentication, but your web browser does not support Digest authentication.

Connection Refused Messages

Under normal circumstances, "connection refused" messages for a networked printer should be expected from time to time. Most network interfaces only allow a single connection to be made at any given time (one job at a time) and will refuse access to all other systems while the first connection is active.

If the problem persists and you are unable to print any jobs to the printer, verify that another machine is not maintaining a connection with the printer, and that you have selected the proper port or printer name for the printer.

Also, most external print servers will refuse connections if the connected printer is turned off or is off-line.

Verify that the affected printer is turned on and is online.

Write Error Messages

If you get "write error" messages on a printer queue the printer interface (usually a Hewlett Packard JetDirect interface) has timed out and reset the network connection from your workstation.

The error is caused by that startup delay between the initial setup of the printer or plotter and the first page of print data that is sent.

To correct the problem, change the idle timeout on the interface to at least 180 seconds or 3 minutes. To change the timeout on a Hewlett Packard JetDirect interface, type:

```
telnet ip-address ENTER
```

```
Trying ip-address...  
Connected to ip-address.  
Escape character is '^['.
```

```
Please type [Return] two times, to initialize telnet configuration  
For HELP type "?"  
> idle-timeout: 180 ENTER  
> quit ENTER
```

